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OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
दक्षिण अण्डमान जिला
SOUTH ANDAMAN DISTRICT
NOTIFICATION

Port Blair, dated the 10th April, 2015

No. 60/2015/F.No.34/732/2012-Rev.— WHEREAS, in pursuance of Rule 15 (1) of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Minor Minerals Rules, 2012, Committee was constituted vide Notification No. 216/2012/F.No.4-2/Quarry /PF-1 dated 09.10.2014.

AND, WHEREAS, the Committee finalized the quarry plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of the power conferred under Rule 5 read with Rule 16 of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Minor Minerals Rules, 2012, the Officer authorized by Lt. Governor to be Competent to approve quarry plan i.e. Deputy Commissioner (South Andaman) hereby approves the quarry plan containing the location, site plan, progressive and final closure plan, reclamation and restoration plan including specific guidelines for source-wise pollution control measures to be followed for quarry operation in South Andaman District are as follows :

QUARRY PLAN

A. BACKGROUND

The Andaman & Nicobar Islands Minor Mineral Rules, 2012 was notified on 20th September, 2012 under the provisions of Minor Mineral Rules, 2012, no person shall undertake any quarrying in respect of any Minor Mineral in any land except under or in accordance with the terms and conditions of a quarrying lease granted under the said rules. The Govt. of India has notified Earth as a Minor Mineral vide Notification published in Extraordinary Notification No.G.S.R.95(E) dated 03.02.2000. The Notification may be seen at Page No. 9.

In pursuance of Rule 6, contiguous areas for quarrying, having due regard to the restrictions mentioned in Rule 4, general topography and environmental aspects, land was identified at Little Andaman 03 quarries were leased out for 03 years for extraction of stone and operational covering an total area of 0.90 hectares on the land bearing Sy. No. 942 situated at Hut Bay village is detailed below:-

1. Quarry was leased out on 08.02.2013 to ALHW to extract stone boulder 20,000 Cbm. per annum, on the land bearing Sy. No. 942/1 an area 0.40 hectares.
2. Quarry was leased out on 15.03.2013 to MID, APWD to extract stone boulder 12,000 Cbm. per annum, on land bearing Sy. No. 942/3 an area 0.25 hectares.
3. Quarry was leased out on 04.04.2013 to Panchayat Samiti to extract stone boulder 12,000 Cbm. per annum, on the land bearing Sy. No. 942/2 an area 0.25 hectares.

Now, two new quarries were proposed to lease out to ALHW and Panchayat Samiti for 03 years as mentioned below:-

1. An area measuring 3.13 hectares of forest land was diverted out of which 02 hectares, for the purpose of Quarrying situated at Hut Bay village is proposed to lease out to ALHW for the purpose Restoration of Breakwater jetty at Hut Bay to extract 3,10,000 Cbm. stone boulder for whole project.
2. An area of 01 hectare from the land bearing Sy. No. 345/1 situated at Rabindra Nagar village which is proposed to lease out to Panchayat Samiti for extraction of white moorum in order to cater the requirement of department, APWD, PRIs and general public.

Being Govt. Departments is exempted from bidding process under the provision of Rule 7 of the Rules. The Lt. Governor, A & N Islands has been pleased fix Rs. 4.00 lakhs for quarry block of 0.25 hectares for 03 years as the Minimum Reserved Price.

The Hon'ble Lt. Governor, A & N Islands, in pursuance of Rule 15 notified the following Committee vide Notification dated 09.10.2012 for South Andaman District for preparing quarry plan for the area identified for quarrying under Rule 6:-

1.	The Deputy Commissioner (South Andaman District)	Chairman
2.	The Additional District Magistrate, Port Blair	Member
3.	Representative of Health Department as nominated by Director, Health Services	Member
4.	Representative of APWD as nominated by Chief Engineer, APWD, Port Blair	Member
5.	Representative of Forest Department as nominated by PCCF	Member
6.	The Assistant Commissioner (Settlement)	Convener

The above Committee has been assigned the task of preparing quarry plan(s) for South Andaman District, which shall include for each identified area outer boundary, potential for extraction or crushing, progressive and final closure plan of quarry, plans for reclamation and restoration of land, measures for pollution control, responsibility of the quarry lease holder and any other matter that the Committee may decide. The plan shall also include the cost of preparation of such plan or plans to be apportioned amongst the lease holders of quarries established on such area in such a manner as the Committee may decide.

The first meeting was held in the Chamber of Deputy Commissioner, South Andaman on 30.10.2014 in connection issues related to quarry plan for extraction of stone and white moorum, 02 quarries identified under Little Andaman Tehsil and directed ALHW to submit the prescribed layout plan for 02.00 ha. land identified for quarrying plan at Hut Bay village alongwith its GPS Co-ordinates and permissible top level and low level intended for quarrying.

The Deputy Commissioner, South Andaman alongwith quarry plan preparation Committee was visited the quarrying site at Hut Bay on 12.12.2014.

The quarry plan under the provisions of Rule 15 shall be prepared by a Committee constituted by the Lt. Governor and notified under the said rule vide Notification F.No.4-2/19-R/Quarry/ PF-1 dated 9.10.2012.

The Andaman and Nicobar Administration has authorized respective Deputy Commissioners to identify and approve quarry plan in their respective districts vide Order No. 312, dated 30.01.2015.

Under the provisions of Rule 6, the Competent authority i.e. the Deputy Commissioner shall identify contiguous area for quarrying having due regard to the restrictions mentioned in Rule 4, general topography and environmental aspects.

The Committee after perusal of the draft quarry plan and after deliberations and taking into account the suggestions of the sub-committee after the field visit made modifications in the plan as deemed fit and finalized the instant quarry plan.

B. LOCATION**(i) Hut Bay village (Stone Quarry)**

- An area measuring 3.13 hectares has been diverted from the forest land and out of that an area of 2.0 hectares situated Hut Bay village, is proposed for new quarry in favour of ALHW with use of explosives.
- The subject land is free from all encumbrances and the area includes the site where quarrying operation were being undertaken earlier.
- The selected area satisfies the restrictions mentioned in Rule 4 and is more than 500 meters from any educational institution, health institution or a residential area.

(ii) Rabindranagar village (White Moorum/ Gravel)

- 1.0 hectare identified on Sy. No. 345/1 situated at Rabindranagar village for conduct of quarrying for the extraction of white moorum without use of explosives.
- The subject land is free from all encumbrances and the area includes the site where quarrying operation were being undertaking earlier.
- The selected area (Survey Number 345/1 area 1.0 hectare) satisfies the restrictions mentioned in Rule 4 and is more than 500 meters from any educational institution, health institution or a residential area.

C. SITE PLAN

- 02 new quarries were proposed to leased out covering an area of 2.00 hectare to ALHW out of the forest land diverted and an area of 1.00 hectare out of total are 69.50 hectares from the land bearing Sy. No. 345/1 situated at Rabindranager village to Panchayat Samiti respectively.
- The selected area has limited spatial extent, recognizable through topography expressions, small hillocks with rides over shorter intervals having narrow depressions etc.
- The extraction from this area would be of minor minerals only i.e. white moorum and stone boulder. Physical inspection has revealed that there are sufficient deposits of these minor minerals at the site.
- Quarrying in this area is not exactly mining but is more like digging and leveling. This would ultimately result in getting flat land once quarrying in the area is closed.
- The selected quarry area shall be inspected and based on the potential for quarrying in the out one blocks of 2.00 hectares each and one block of 1.0 hectares for Panchayat Samiti.
- Explosives shall be permitted for extraction of quarry material in case of quarry of ALHW.
- It has been stagger the quarry operations, limited to extraction of white moorum/graved to meet the genuine demand, considering the developmental activities undertaken by APWD, PRIs and other agencies.

D. POTENTIAL FOR EXTRACTION OF MINOR MINERAL AND YEARLY EXTRACTION

- Since the blocks have been carved out of small hillocks, at the end of quarrying the area will develop into a flat land, which can be used for other purposes.
- As stated earlier the Committee is satisfied that the quarry sites are having existence of minor minerals. However, Committee feels that the Department concerned could also satisfy themselves with regard to quantity of minor minerals.
- In order to stagger the quarry operations over a period of time, the Committee decided to allow extraction of upto 20,000 Cbm. minor mineral (white moorum) per annum.
- In the case of quarry identified for ALHW, since the area is 2.00 hectares, the limit of extraction as the total requirement of the project is 3,10,000 Cbm. for 03 years.

- In the case of extraction of white moorum is the only mode to fulfill requirement, the quarry may be leased out to Panchayat Samiti and decided to allow extraction of upto 20,000 Cbm. white moorum per annum.

E. PROGRESSIVE AND FINAL CLOSURE PLAN

- Consideration the small size of quarry sites to be leased out, Committee feels that progressive closure plan would not be feasible however, avenue plantation is to be undertaken as an interim measure for protection of the environment.
- Under no circumstances, depressions on account of quarrying shall be allowed and quarrying activity should not be done below mean sea level.
- The Committee has decided to recommend guidelines for final closure of quarry. The following points are to be considered as a part of final closure of the quarry:
 - (a) Location of the quarry.
 - (b) Topography of the quarry.
 - (c) Reason for closure or reserves of minor minerals available for future in the quarry, if any.
 - (d) The reclamation and rehabilitation of the mined quarries indicating the method of reclamation/restoration of land and quarries pits.
 - (e) Water quality and hydrology of the area indicating water bodies, surface run-off, vulnerability to erosion, sedimentation/ siltation, diversion of water course, contamination, quantity and quality change of water in water bodies. The corrective and protective measures are to be considered.
 - (f) Air quality indicating air quality status & corrective measure to prevent pollution.
 - (g) Waste Management indicating status, type quality and quantity of over burden, earth/ top soil removed and prevention measure & disposal methods of the overburden in case not utilized for stabilization & for filling the pits. The protective measures to be taken for prevention of siltation, erosion and dust generation from these waste materials should also be addressed.
 - (h) Infrastructure emphasis on maintaining the existing roads, etc. and creation of toe/ retaining walls, check dams etc.
 - (i) Disposal or removal of quarrying machineries & construction like hutment/shed, if any.
 - (j) The Administration may include any activity as a part of closure of closure plan at any point of time.
 - (k) Statutory obligations like payment of wages/ compensation for retrenchment of manpower/ labours under ID Act, and handling any other kind of repercussions shall be the sole responsibility of quarry lease holder.
 - (l) Disaster Management & Risk Assessment—indicating the probable high risks like land slides, seismic activities, inundation of low areas in abandoned quarry and action plan to mitigate these risks.
 - (m) Monitoring and evaluation of the activities of the closure plan.

F. MEASURES FOR POLLUTION CONTROL

- During quarrying operations, the water should be sprayed at least once in a day over the roads at the quarry sites and nearby areas by the lease holders.
- Kachha road, used for transportation of moorum, from the quarry site shall be invariably sprayed by water during these operations. In order to minimize dust pollution, measures such as adoption of hoods at transfer points, vulcanizing of conveyer belt joint, under belt cleaning devices, and installation of dust suppressions and/or dust extraction system for conveyance shall be adopted.
- The kachha road leading to the quarry shall have avenue plantation to arrest the dust pollution.

SPECIFIC GUIDELINES FOR SOURCE-WISE POLLUTION CONTROL MEASURES TO BE FOLLOWED FOR STONE QUARRIES BY THE LEASE HOLDER

AIR POLLUTION

DRILLING :

- 1) Drilling machine shall be fitted with dust suppression, collection and disposal arrangement.
- 2) Deep wetting of drilling zones shall be done by water sprinkling before starting drilling.
- 3) During the drilling operations the efforts shall be made to reduce dust generation by taking appropriate measures.

BLASTING :

- 1) Proper blasting whole geometry shall be designed.
- 2) Blast site shall be wetted before and after blasting operations are completed.
- 3) Only optimum quantity of permissible explosives shall be used so that the vibrations do not damage the structures/ houses which may be close to human habitation.
- 4) Blasting shall be conducted only during favourable weather conditions and only during the day time and permissible hours.
- 5) The blasting operations shall be given publicity in the local area through all possible means and other available media so that local people become aware of the blasting activities being undertaken in the area.
- 6) The blasting to be undertaken by an authorized Shot Firer only.
- 7) The storage of the explosives and its transfer to and from the quarry area shall be strictly in accordance with the conditions listed in the permission granted by Competent Authority.

HEAVY EARTH MOVING MACHINERY (HEMM) :

- 1) The operator/ transporter shall carryout regular maintenance of the machinery and vehicles.
- 2) The speed limit shall be adhered to.
- 3) Operator's cabin of the HEMMs should preferably be air conditioned at least air tight.
- 4) The smoke emission should conform to the standards notified in Motor Vehicle Act.
- 5) The trucks carrying the mined products shall be covered with tarpaulin so that there are no fugitive emissions during transportation.
- 6) The transportation should not be through the busy roads in the city/ towns/ villages, if by pass roads are available.

HAUL ROADS :

- 1) All the haul and service roads shall be mettled and well maintained.
- 2) Unmettled haul roads shall be free of ruts and pot holes.
- 3) All haul roads and surface roads shall be regularly sprayed with water.
- 4) Plantation alongside haul roads (avenue plantation) shall be carriedout done.

OVERBURDEN :

- 1) Plantation over and around over burden dumps shall be carriedout to ensure stability of slopes, prevention of dust by wind action and soil erosion during the run off.
- 2) Wetting of surface of overburden dump shall be regularly practiced.

NOISE POLLUTION**BLASTING :**

- 1) Blast holes shall be judiciously charged.
- 2) No Blasting shall be done when there is low cloud ceiling .
- 3) All other guidelines regarding blasting operations shall be strictly adhered to as per the direction of the competent authority.

DRILLING :

The workers shall be provided appropriate personal protective equipment viz. ear mufflers/ ear plug or noise proof cabins.

HEAVY EARTH MOVING MACHINERY (HEMM) :

- 1) The engine exhausts of HEMM to be fitted with mufflers and cabins shall be noise proof.
- 2) HEMM shall be properly maintained.
- 3) Operators shall be provided with ear mufflers/ ear plugs.
- 4) Imposition of speed restriction of HEMM near residential area shall be enforce.
- 5) The haulage path of the HEMM shall be re-routed so that it is away from the residential area.

WATER POLLUTION SURFACE:

The project components should comply with all the standards given in the water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

G. RESPONSIBILITY OF QUARRY LEASE HOLDER

Besides the responsibilities of the quarry lease holder as stated in the A & N Islands Minor Minerals Rules, 2012, a quarry lease holder shall also be responsible for complying with the various aspects as suggested in the various headings of the instant quarry plan.

H. OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS

- Periodical health checkup of the workers and other family members engaged in the quarry, a dust prone unit and to keep vigilance on development of Silicosis or other respiratory illness.
- All quarry lease holders must keep necessary provision of “First Aid” at the work site.
- Make provision of fund for aid to the workers and their family in case of any accidental injury/ death take place.

I. PERIOD OF OPERATION OF QUARRY PLAN

- The instant quarry plan shall come into force immediately after Notification by the Deputy Commissioner (South Andaman).
- The plan shall remain in force till three years from the date of Notification unless otherwise modified/ recast on the basis of review conducted by the Committee after one year or on account of orders of a Competent Court/ Administrator and in such event, the modified quarry plan shall have the same force and applicability for all concerned including the quarry lease holders.
- The instant quarry plan is within the ambit of provisions of Andaman and Nicobar Islands Minor Minerals Rules, 2012.

Sd./-
(V.K. Bidhuri, IAS)
Deputy Commissioner
(South Andaman District)
F.No. 12/TSD-R/Quarry/2014 /2953